Wagon orders to the prospective bidders of Jessop and other PSUs

2274. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether firm wagon orders are being ensured to the prospective bidders of Jessop and other public sector manufacturing units; and

(b) if so, why the same could not be ensured by Government during the implementation of the revival scheme sanctioned by the BIFR for Jessop, Burn Standard and Braithwaite?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes Sir. The Government has decided to extend the present dispensation of Railways placing orders on Jessop for 36 numbers of AC EMU coaches per year and such number of wagons that would constitute 8 per cent of the quota reserved for public sector units in each year for two years after disinvestment. In case of other PSUs, such dispensation would be decided on a case to case basis.

(b) BIFR sanctioned rehabilitation schemes of Jessop, BSCL and Braithwaite did not envisage such dispensation. In actual practice, CPSUs have been receiving a fair share of wagon orders from the overall wagon orders being released by the Railways every year.

Proposal of workers of Jessop and company

2275. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that workers of Jessop and Company Ltd.,

have made some suggestions to run the company as a public sector company stalling its proposed sale to a private party; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The employees union have been opposing disinvestment in Jessop & Company claiming it to be strategic as it manufactures products required for Railway Transport System. Under the Policy, Railways *per se* is strategic and not suppliers of equipment thereto.

Modified voluntary retirement scheme for PSUs

2276. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the Modified Voluntary Retirement Scheme (MVRS) for Central Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) whether it has come to the notice that there is a fall in compensation in MVRS than the previously notified Gujarat pattern of VRS in case of companies where revision of wages has taken place after 1st January, 1992;

(c) if so, whether the Government will allow option to the workers to opt the new MVRS or the previously notified Gujarat pattern of VRS; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) The modified VRS was announced on 6.11.2001. The salient features are:

(i) *Ex-gratia* payment in respect of employees on pay scales at 1.1.1987 and 1.1.1992 levels, computed on their existing pay scales in accordance with the extant scheme, shall be increased by 100% and 50% respectively.